

Minutes
Harbor/Waterfront Committee Meeting
July 22, 2011 8:00

ROLL CALL:

Present: Chairperson Richard Garrett, Jay Hallett, Paul Dobbins, William Oliver, Richard Craven, Counselor Fred Chase, Lt. John Kilbride, Chief Edward Tolan, Harbormaster Alan Twombly, Kimmerly Maxfield-Fearon

Absent: Emmanuel Kourinos, Peter Thornton

ITEM I: CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS

The new float is working out. Within 2 days of it's placement he received positive comments from the public.

The Patriot's Day damage at Madokawanda Landing is being repaired.

ITEM II: REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES OF MAY 5, 2011 MEETING

William Oliver made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2011 meeting, Jay Hallett seconded. It was voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the meeting.

ITEM III: PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Doyle of Shady Lane asked that the harbor committee consider assigning moorings to Falmouth residents that would like to have mooring a mooring this summer and are probably on the waiting list, but have not got a mooring yet.

ITEM IV: HARBORMASTER REPORT

Moorings:

Total: 1099

Wait list:

Resident 51
Non-resident 45

Commercial Floats

New side float was installed the first of June and has allowed access to the side floats through all but the lowest of tides. The chafe guards have been installed. They can now access the ramp from just about any side.

Town Dinghies

Instituted dedicated Town Dinghy tie-up and pick up/drop off location using the end float as a dinghy float. Has been working very well and has almost eliminated Town Dinghies being left on other floats interfering with docking.

ITEM V: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. None
- B. Unlisted Items – None

ITEM VI: NEW BUSINESS

- A. Review sections of Falmouth Coastal Waters Ordinances

Harbormaster Twombly would like request the harbor committee request the town council to adjust section 9.94, paragraph L to allow the temporary suspension of the section of the ordinance regarding when a mooring is deemed abandoned. Due to the current economy a lot of moorings are unoccupied.

He has spoken with other local harbormasters who are experiencing the same situation and they are attributing it to the economy and high price of gas.

Section 2.94 Paragraph L

The Harbormaster shall deem abandoned any mooring assignment unused/ unpaid by the applicant for his or her vehicle for a period of one season. Subsequent application for a mooring # assignment by that person must be in accordance with the procedure outlined for new applications including placement and chronological sequence on the waiting list. Extension appeals will be considered on a case by case basis by the harbormaster

The harbormaster is not talking about the unpaid section, but the unused portion. He explained that it is difficult to determine whether a mooring is being used or not as you cannot watch them 24/7.

After brief discussion, it was determined that the language is actually in the ordinance giving the harbormaster discretion on a “case by case basis”.

It was determined that no change was necessary.

Harbormaster Twombly also requested that once an applicant is taken from the mooring list, they have up to a year to install a mooring. It has been found that some of those on the list have been there so long, that they are not prepared to install the mooring or boat.

Richard Craven agreed that it would be helpful as some people won't get a boat until they have a mooring to put it on.

Richard Garrett brought up the fact that moorings can be obtained elsewhere in the anchorage, not just at Town Landing.

Richard Craven asked if everyone on the list still wants a mooring. Harbormaster Twombly told him that when 22 spots opened up, he contacted over 30 people before he found takers for the 22 spaces. At this point it was suggested that a \$10 fee a year be charged to be on the list. He has talked to another harbormaster who do this and it has cut their waiting list in half.

William Oliver suggested that the \$10 be reimbursed (or taken off the mooring fee) when a mooring came available.

Harbormaster Twombly indicated that those given a year to get a mooring in would still need to pay that year's mooring fee. 6/1 is the cut off for non-payment, at which time moorings are pulled.

The committee agreed that the year is up to the harbormaster's discretion and that no change is needed but to add the \$10 fee would require a change.

Richard Craven asked if the harbormaster knows when moorings are put in and was told yes, the mooring company contacts him.

ITEM VII: CONFIRM DATE FOR NEXT MEETING (8:00 AM MEETING)

The next meeting of the Harbor/Waterfront Committee is scheduled for September 15, 2011 at 8:00 AM at the Falmouth Police Department.

ADJOURN

William Oliver made a motion that the meeting be adjourned, Paul Dobbins seconded it. It was unanimously voted that the meeting be adjourned at 8:20 AM.

Respectfully submitted by Kimmerly Maxfield-Fearon on 7/27/11.